DC #61

DIRECT CURRENTS

APRIL COVER DATE

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Breaking new ground
MILESTONE MEDIA

New heroes for a new Earth
NEW ONGOING LEGIONNAIRES

King Faraday on the trail
THE DANGER TRAIL

Cover of the Month
THE SUPERMAN GALLERY #1

TWO MAJOR MILESTONES... *HARDWARE* AND *BLOOD SYNDICATE*!

It's a major milestone in comics...**MILESTONE MEDIA**, that is! MILESTONE is an all-new line of comics featuring the adventures of a culturally diverse mix of superheroes, battling in the fictional city of Dakota, and driven by internal conflicts that shape them in ways rarely explored in comics.

This month, MILESTONE debuts its first two titles, each a self-contained story whose subplots and character relationships link the Milestone line.

First in the MILESTONE line-up is **HARDWARE #1.** Curtis Metcalf is employed by Alva Industries, the high-tech "inspiration factory" run by the world-famous industrialist Edwin Alva. Talented and tireless, Metcalf has conquered the twin demons of poverty and racism to become one of the most brilliant inventors alive. But Alva has been exploiting Metcalf's genius all along...and even worse, has stepped outside the reach of the law in more insidious ways. Metcalf is compelled to make his own rules in order to combat Alva's

(con't from page 1)

illegal activities—by becoming Hardware. Hardware's endless and unpredictable array of weaponry includes a plasma-charged, expandable whip; forearm-mounted cannons that fire explosives; and a form-fitting, impact-resistant "smart" battle suit.

HARDWARE is an ongoing monthly series written by Dwayne McDuffie and featuring art and cover by Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti.

Then, DC continues the launch of the Milestone comics line with **BLOOD SYNDICATE #1.** The major youth gangs of Paris Island thought they were going to settle their turf wars, once and for all, in one final "Big Bang." The cops thought they'd be able to tag them all with a radioactive marker, and arrest no fewer than five hundred of them by morning.

Instead, hundreds died.

A handful of survivors emerges, permanently changed. Each now possesses superhuman abilities. Circumstances force them to band together in an uneasy alliance. Now *everybody* steers clear of the BLOOD SYNDICATE!

BLOOD SYNDICATE is written by Dwayne McDuffie and Ivan Velez, Jr. and features art by Trevor von Eeden.

Both HARDWARE and BLOOD SYNDICATE are available in Newsstand Editions and special Collector's Editions. The Collector's Editions are polybagged with a 13" x 20" 4-color poster of the cover; a "Who's Who"-style profile of the lead character(s) printed on an acid-free backing board; a prototype trading card produced in cooperation with SkyBox International; and one set of a 4-part, 16-piece color "mural." (HARDWARE #1 and BLOOD SYNDICATE #1 each contain one set from the mural; the other two sets are each included with polybagged editions of the next two Milestone launches.) The Newsstand editions feature different covers and are not bagged.

HARDWARE and BLOOD SYNDICATE...two major MILESTONES in the future of comics!

Paul Kupperberg, Writer
Patricia Jeres, Editor
Tom McCraw, Colorist
Bob Wayne, Director—Retail Services

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LEGIONNAIRES: NEW HEROES FOR NEW EARTH

In the aftermath of Earth's destruction in the 30th Century, the shaken and weary survivors struggle to start a brave new world within the domed cities of New Earth. With the Legion of Super-Heroes having departed for deep space, another group offers the citizens of New Earth a symbol of hope in this turbulent time. From the ruins of Metropolis, a certain clubhouse is salvaged; new outfits are donned; new code-names are chosen; new members are admitted; old traditions return ...and the **LEGIONNAIRES** are born.

LEGIONNAIRES marks a bold beginning for some of the best-loved heroes in comics history, successfully recapturing the youthful exuberance of the original Legion, combined with a modern style that will appeal to longtime Legion fans and to a whole new generation of readers.

LEGIONNAIRES is written by Tom and Mary Bierbaum and features art by Chris Sprouse and Karl Story. LEGIONNAIRES #1 includes Part 1 of "A Guide to the 30th Century," a text feature with background and biographical information on the Legionnaires, with character design sketches by Sprouse & Story.

LEGIONNAIRES #1...the future starts here!

LEGIONNAIRES

ACTION AND ADVENTURE ON THE *DANGER TRAIL*

King Faraday—secret agent, spy, adventurer—now stars in his own miniseries, DANGER TRAIL.

When the Central Bureau of Intelligence receives word that the assistant of an abducted physicist is in possession of sensitive information, Faraday is sent to Russia to rescue her and retrieve the information. The danger involved is that the abductor is Kobra, one of the most insidious super-villains ever to stalk the planet. His plan is to turn what could be a great boon to mankind into a weapon for destruction and personal gain.

It's up to King Faraday to get the girl to safety, render Kobra's threat harmless, rescue the captured scientist, and destroy Kobra's organization. All in a day's work...!

DANGER TRAIL is a 4-issue miniseries written by Len Wein and featuring art by Carmine Infantino and Frank McLaughlin. The covers for the miniseries are provided by Paul Gulacy.

DANGER TRAIL...some guys just have to follow the path to adventure!

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 9

☐ **BATMAN: SHADOW OF THE BAT #11**
Kadaver is obsessed with death, and for good reason...he is himself dying—and determined to take all of Gotham City with him! He might just get his wish. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Vince Giarrano. Painted cover by Brian Stelfreeze. *(New Format)* $1.75

☐ **DEATHSTROKE, THE TERMINATOR #21**
After the conclusion of the "Nuclear Winter" storyline, Slade returns stateside but, having turned his back on Checkmate and the CIA, he is now a man without a country. Then, the Vigilante comes back into his life. Written by Steven Grant, with art by Steve Erwin and Will Blyberg. Cover by Mike Zeck. *(New Format)* $1.75

DEATHSTROKE, THE TERMINATOR #21

☐ **FLASH #75**
Wally West, once the fastest man in Keystone City, now has an unexpected contender for that title—a Flash who resembles a certain blond-haired (and dead!) police scientist. But even the combined might of three Flashes may not contain the outbreak of mob violence that threatens to tear Keystone apart. Written by Mark Waid, with art by Greg LaRocque and Roy Richardson and cover by Ty Templeton. $1.25

GREEN LANTERN: MOSAIC #11

☐ **GREEN LANTERN: MOSAIC #11**
John wakes up at home on Earth to face ghosts from his past and the mystery of his connection with the Mosiac as he confronts his parents, his murdered grandparents, and the Guardian who started it all. Plus, the return of Ch'p! Written by Gerard Jones, with art and cover by Mitch Byrd and John Floyd. $1.25

FLASH #75

☐ **LEGIONNAIRES #1**
It's 2995 and Earth has been destroyed, leaving only domed cities in space and chaos and civil unrest among the survivors. The only ray of hope for the crushed spirits of the world's population is the Legionnaires—more than 20 young super-powered adventurers, whose fantastic exploits harken back to the glory days of the United Planets and of the Legion. Plus: Part 1 of "A Guide to the 30th Century," an extended illustrated text feature giving the lowdown on all of the Legionnaires and descriptions of their 30th-Century home. Written by Tom and Mary Bierbaum, with art and cover by Chris Sprouse and Karl Story. $1.25

LEGIONNAIRES #1

APRIL COVER DATE

☐ **PETER CANNON–THUNDERBOLT #8**

Cairo DeFrey's been kidnapped and Thunderbolt is learning that he possesses some amazing powers as he tracks her and her abductors—and, as a reward for her rescue, Cairo reveals some pretty startling secrets of her own. Written and pencilled by Michael Collins and inked by José Marzan, Jr. Cover by Collins and Marzan, Jr. $1.25

PETER CANNON–THUNDERBOLT #8

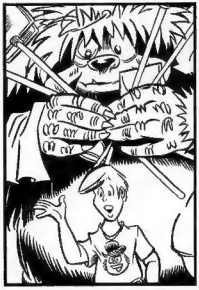
☐ **THE SPECTRE #5**

A gang of kidnappers dies a horrible death, taking the whereabouts of their hidden victim to their fiery graves. The desperate cops have no clues and less hope, but they do have The Spectre, who will pursue the secret even beyond the grave. Written by John Ostrander, with art by Tom Mandrake. Cover by Brian Bolland. *(New Format)* $1.75

THE SPECTRE #5

☐ **STANLEY & HIS MONSTER #3**
(of a 4-issue miniseries)

The cat's out of the bag...or, more accurately, the monster's presence in the Dover household has been discovered. Now Stanley must hide the presence of supernatural sleuth Ambrose Bierce in the house while he conjures the amulet that will protect the monster from the forces of Hell. Written and pencilled by Phil Foglio and inked by Chuck Fiala. Cover by Foglio and Jerry Ordway. $1.50



STANLEY & HIS MONSTER #3

☐ **STAR TREK® #45**

With the *USS Enterprise*™ in the grip of the uncanny, all-powerful alien Trelane, Captain Kirk surrenders himself as the subject of a possibly lethal experiment. Written by S.H. Wilson, with art by Rob Davis and Arne Starr. Cover by Rod Whigham and Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.75

STAR TREK® #45

☐ **VALOR #6**

The Blasters are on a mission to spring a powerless Valor from the maximum security penitentiary known as Starlag II. But they have to go through Warden Kanjar Ru (Kanjar Ro's sister) and her cyborg army to do it. Written by Robert Loren Fleming, with art and cover by Jeffrey Moore and Trevor Scott. $1.25

☐ **WONDER WOMAN #73**

Paradise Island is missing! But before Diana can begin the search, a greater challenge presents itself... she has to find a job! Written by William Messner-Loebs, pencilled by Lee Moder, and inked by Andé Parks. Cover by Brian Bolland. $1.25

WONDER WOMAN #73

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 16

BATMAN #491
Bane gives Batman the ultimate challenge when he frees every inmate of Arkham Asylum! **This storyline begins a major event in upcoming issues of both BATMAN and DETECTIVE, leading to a dramatic climax in BATMAN #500.** Written by Doug Moench, with art by Jim Aparo. Cover by Travis Charest and Ray McCarthy. $1.25

BATMAN #491

BLACK CANARY #4
Whorrsman is back and Black Canary's neighborhood friends are caught in the middle of his evil schemes...leaving it to a retired shoemaker to save them from certain death. Written by Sarah E. Byam, with art by Trevor von Eeden and Bob Smith. Cover by Von Eeden. *(New Format)* $1.75

DANGER TRAIL #1
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
It starts as a simple mission to escort an informant out of Russia. But American ace spy King Faraday soon discovers there are even greater forces at work behind the scenes of this job...forces that make the hazards of international politics seem like child's play. Written by Len Wein, with art by Carmine Infantino and Frank McLaughlin. Cover by Paul Gulacy. $1.50

BLACK CANARY #4

THE DEMON #34
Part 1 of the 4-part "The Eternity Quest": **Lobo returns to THE DEMON and the two take the highway to hell** as Etrigan's dad steals the soul of Harry the Pillow, leaving Harry acting like a real bastich. Written by Alan Grant, with art by Rich Hedden and Tom McWeeney. Painted cover by Denis Rodier. *(New Format)* $1.75

ECLIPSO #6
It's do or die for Bruce Gordon and his Eclipso strike force, including Cave Carson and the Creeper, as they attempt their escape from Eclipso's South American stronghold. Meanwhile, Eclipso's plan to poison the world continues unhampered. Written by Keith Giffen and Robert Loren Fleming, with art by Luke McDonnell and Ray Kryssing. $1.25

ECLIPSO #6

GREEN ARROW: THE WONDER YEAR #3
(of a 4-issue miniseries)
Green Arrow's first adventure continues as the presidential candidate is assassinated and Oliver Queen's girlfriend is the prime suspect. Written and pencilled by Mike Grell and inked by Gray Morrow. Painted cover by Mike Grell. *(New Format)* $1.75

GREEN ARROW: THE WONDER YEAR #3

THE HACKER FILES #9
(of a 12-issue limited series)
Part 3 of the 4-part "Working-Class Hero": Infiltrating the Digitronix plant in China, Hacker and Yoshiko are caught and, having learned their plan, Hacker must escape to protect the world! Written by Lewis Shiner, with art by Tom Sutton and Mark Buckingham. Computer art cover by Tom Canty. *(New Format)* $1.95

HAMMERLOCKE #8
(of a 9-issue limited series)
Locke and the Phade fight a final battle with the Iron Spider for the future of the Starbridge—and of Earth. But even if he wins, this may be Hammerlocke's last stand. Written by Tom Joyner, with art and cover by Chris Sprouse and K.S. Wilson. *(New Format)* $1.75

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #73
Guy, Wonder Woman, Maxima, and the rest of the new Justice League join the Atom to fight...the original JLA? Written and laid out by Dan Jurgens and inked by Rick Burchett. Cover by Jurgens and Giordano. $1.25

APRIL COVER DATE

HAMMERLOCKE #8

JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA #73

☐ **THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #42**

When Legion members are kidnapped by a mysterious foe, the seemingly powerless Duo Damsel must come to the rescue, leading to a surprising revelation. Written by Tom McCraw and Tom & Mary Bierbaum, with art by Stuart Immonen and Ron Boyd. *(New Format)* $1.75

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #42

☐ **THE NEW TITANS #96**

Part 3 of the 3-part "Patriot Games": Cyborg is a walking bomb programmed to kill Russian President Yeltsin, and it's up to Anna Zametova and Red Star to stop him. But Red Star must control his newly heightened powers or the world will be plunged into World War III. Written by Louise Simonson, with art by Phil Jimenez and Ray McCarthy. Cover, the final part of a triptych design featuring the new Red Star, by Jimenez and Art Nichols. *(New Format)* $1.75

THE NEW TITANS #96

☐ **STAR TREK®: THE NEXT GENERATION™—THE STAR LOST Trade Paperback**

Collecting Star Trek®: The Next Generation™ #20-24, as the *Enterprise*™ journeys back from uncharted space, the crew mourns the loss of their friends, lost aboard the missing shuttle *Einstein*™, which vanished while en route to a medical rescue mission. Picard and the crew of the *Enterprise*™, not knowing whether Riker, Worf, Wesley Crusher and others aboard the missing shuttle are dead or alive, are forced to continue on to another difficult mission. Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art by Peter Krause and Pablo Marcos. The introduction is by *Star Trek®: The Next Generation*™ producer Ron Moore. Painted wraparound cover by Jason Palmer. *(144 pages. Trade paperback.)* $14.95

STAR TREK®: THE NEXT GENERATION™—THE STAR LOST TRADE PAPERBACK

☐ **THE SUPERMAN GALLERY #1**

In the tradition of the BATMAN GALLERY comes this tribute pinup book offering an overview of the Man of Steel's life, with classic, rare, and seldom-seen images by some of the greatest artists in the comics field. Included in this volume is work by Todd McFarlane, Frank Miller, Neal Adams, John Byrne, Steve Rude, George Pérez, Mike Zeck, Moebius, Jerry Ordway, Dan Jurgens, Jack Kirby, Joe Shuster, Curt Swan, Wayne Boring, Kurt Schaffenberger, and more. With each page printed on glossy coated stock, this is a book no Superman fan will want to miss. Wraparound cover by Walter Simonson. *(32 pages. No ads. Unique Format.)* $2.95

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 23

☐ **BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #44**
Part 1 of the 2-part "Turf": It's the early years of Batman's and Gordon's careers, and teen gang violence rips through Gotham City, spearheaded by the Brotherhood of the White Night, a white-supremacist gang. In the course of investigating gang and racial violence, Batman uncovers a gang of police officers with a murderous agenda of its own! Written by Steven Grant, with art and cover by Shawn McManus. *(Deluxe Format)* $1.75

☐ **BLACK CONDOR #11**
Pressed by a nosy reporter for details of his origin, the Condor snaps, "I was stolen by giant condors as a child and raised by them," and flies off. When the reporter asks Ned Smith, Condor's forest ranger pal for details, he produces them, providing a very peculiar origin story. Written by Brian Augustyn, with art by Rags Morales and Richard Space. Cover by Morales. $1.25

BLACK CONDOR #11

☐ **GREEN LANTERN #38**
Green Lantern comes into conflict with Adam Strange when a planet uses Olivia Reynolds's powerful U-mind to control Hal Jordan, endangering Strange's daughter on the planet Rann! Written by Gerard Jones, with art and cover by M.D. Bright and Romeo Tanghal. $1.25

BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #44

☐ **HARDWARE #1**
Direct Market Edition
Welcome to the debut of the **Milestone** line of comics, presenting adventures of a culturally diverse mix of super-heroes, set in the fictional city of Dakota. In this first issue, Curtis Metcalf discovers that Alva Industries, the corporation that paid for his education and made him a wealthy engineer, has been corrupted completely by the man who founded it. But at night, Curt becomes Hardware, a high-tech dreadnought of vengeance, using his endless array of weapons and gadgets to foil the corporation at its head. Contained in this polybagged set are a 13" x 20" 4-color poster of the cover by Denys Cowan; a "Who's Who"-style profile of Hardware printed on an acid-free backing board; a trading card in cooperation with SkyBox International; and set "B" (the second 4 parts) of a giant 16-piece color puzzle. Written by Dwayne McDuffie, with art and covers by Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti. $2.95

☐ **HARDWARE #1**
Newsstand Edition
The newsstand edition of HARDWARE contains the same exciting story as the direct edition by writer Dwayne McDuffie and artists Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti, with a different cover by Cowan and Palmiotti. $1.50

HARDWARE #1

APRIL COVER DATE

L.E.G.I.O.N. '93 #51

Lobo and Telepath are stranded on a barren planetoid with a cannibalistic alien prisoner. Lobo is feeling violent, which is bad news for his companions. So, Telepath keeps him distracted by relating his heartbreaking secret origin. Written by Alan Grant and Barry Kitson and pencilled by Enrique Alcátena. Cover by Kitson. *(New Format)* $1.75

What kind of main man isn't a dangerous one?
YAAAGGH!?
NOTHING! JUST THINKING... IT'S HARDLY YOUR FAULT YOUR EXES BACKS DOWN. YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T TAKE IT OUT ON US!

L.E.G.I.O.N. '93 #51

SHOWCASE '93 #4

(of a 12-issue limited series)

The 4-part **Catwoman** solo story concludes as Selina Kyle, Ramon Bracuda, Robin and the residents of Sorrow Street have it out in a story written by Doug Moench, with art by Ed Hannigan and Fred Fredericks. In "A World to Conquer," part 4 of **Blue Devil**'s 6-part adventure, Galaxa, the planet-devourer, has a craving for Earth, and is using Blue Devil to help set the table in a story written by Gary Cohn and Dan Mishkin and drawn by Pete Moriarty and Dan Davis. Geo-Force stars in "The Haunting of Castle Markov," Part 1 of a 2-part story, written by Mike W. Barr and drawn by Bryan Hitch and John Beatty. *(48 pages.)* $1.95

STAR TREK®: THE NEXT GENERATION™ #45

The surgical team that created Geordi's VISOR is assembled for an operation that will seal the fate of an entire civilization. Written by Michael Jan Friedman and Kevin Ryan, with art by Chuck Frazier and Pablo Marcos. Cover by Jason Palmer and Jerome Moore. *(New Format)* $1.75

SHOWCASE '93 #4

TEAM TITANS # 7

As the Team strives to build a life in the present, mysteries from the future return to plague them—as the Nightwing of 2001 reappears! Written by Marv Wolfman, with art by Phil Jimenez and Will Blyberg. Cover by Jimenez. *(New Format)* $1.75

SHIPPING MARCH 2

THE BATMAN ADVENTURES #7

Killer Croc confronts the only person ever to beat him—the hired muscle for the gangster who Batman wants to bring down. Punches fly when the Dark Knight takes on the Raging Lizard. Written by Kelley Puckett, with art and cover by Mike Parobeck and Rick Burchett. $1.25

BATMAN: NIGHT CRIES
Trade Paperback

Someone is on a murder spree in Gotham City, leading Batman and Commissioner Gordon to think a drug war is raging, but they soon realize what all the victims had in common: they were child abusers. As they follow the case, Gordon is forced to confront his own past as an abused child, trying to prevent the same tragedy from happening again. Written by Archie Goodwin, with art and painted cover by Scott Hampton. *(96 pages. Trade paperback.)* $12.95

THE BATMAN ADVENTURES #7

APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING MARCH 2

THE DARKSTARS #7
The Darkstars finally establish a headquarters, but unexpectedly lose a member—just as the Syndicate lets loose the galaxy's most feared assassin! Written by Michael Jan Friedman, with art and cover by Travis Charest and Scott Hanna. *(New Format)* $1.75

GREEN ARROW #73
A major crime lord is in a desperate fight to save his life, with a U.S. congressman the sole witness as Green Arrow faces a countdown to save the life of a Vietnam vet. Written by Mike Grell, with art by Shea Anton Pensa. Cover by Grell *(New Format)* $1.75

GREEN ARROW #73

GUY GARDNER #7
Guy has beaten Hal Jordan to Goldface—the problem is, Goldface has Guy's ring and is planning to use it to kill our hero and take over the world! Written by Gerard Jones and Tim Jacobs, with art and cover by Joe Staton and Terry Beatty. $1.25

JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE #49
Part 5 of the 6-part "Red Winter": The JLA and the JSA guest-star as the JLE faces its darkest hour: Sonar strikes back! Written by Gerard Jones, with art and cover by Ron Randall and Randy Elliott. $1.25

GUY GARDNER #7

JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE #49

JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA #8
The JSA is on the run when their loved ones—and the rest of the world—turn against them! The heroes have nowhere to turn, because the hate campaign against them is spearheaded by none other than Carter (Hawkman) Hall! Guest-starring Guy Gardner. Written by Len Strazewski, with art and cover by Mike Parobeck and Mike Machlan. $1.25

SUPERGIRL/TEAM LUTHOR SPECIAL #1
Supergirl and Lex Luthor lead Team Luthor into the streets of Metropolis to take the city back from the criminals who've come out in full force since Superman's demise. Written by Roger Stern and Louise Simonson, pencilled by June Brigman and inked by Denis Rodier. Cover by Kerry Gammill and Bob Wiacek. *(64 pages.)* $2.50

SUPERGIRL/TEAM LUTHOR SPECIAL #1

SHIPPING MARCH 9

ALL STAR COMICS ARCHIVES Volume 2
DC continues the high-quality reprintings of the early adventures of the Justice Society of America, this volume represents ALL STAR COMICS #7-10 in their entirety. Characters included are Superman, Batman, Flash, Green Lantern, Hawkman, Atom, Doctor Fate, Hour-Man, Spectre, Sandman, Johnny Thunder, Dr. Mid-Nite, Starman and, in a special appearance, Wonder Woman. The introduction to this volume is by Jerry Bails, noted Justice Society fan and comics historian. *(256 pages. Hardcover book.)* $49.95

ALL STAR COMICS ARCHIVES Volume 2

APRIL COVER DATE

BLOOD SYNDICATE #1
Direct Market Edition

Rob Chaplik, a reporter for the Dakota Chronicle, ventures onto Paris Island, "the most dangerous municipality in America," to chase down rumors of a new element in Dakota's gang culture. She finds the Blood Syndicate possessing superhuman abilities and more brutally lethal than she thought possible. Now Rob accompanies the Syndicate as they wage a violent, super-powered assault on a local "crack factory." This journey through an urban nightmare makes quite an adventure for Rob, until she becomes a victim of violence herself. Written by Dwayne McDuffie and Ivan Velez, Jr., with art by Trevor von Eeden and inked by Andrew Pepoy. Cover by Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti. This polybagged edition contains a 13" x 20" 4-color poster of the cover by Denys Cowan; a "Who's Who"-style profile of the Blood Syndicate printed on an acid-free backing board; a trading card, produced in cooperation with SkyBox International; and set "B" (the second 4 parts) of a giant 16-piece color mural. $2.95

BLOOD SYNDICATE #1
Newsstand Edition

The newsstand edition of BLOOD SYNDICATE contains the same exciting story as the direct edition written by Dwayne McDuffie and Ivan Velez, Jr., with art by Trevor von Eeden, with a different cover by Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti. $1.50

CRUCIBLE #3
(of a 6-issue miniseries)

The Black Hood tracks down the Comet, whom the Tomorrow Men have shown will become Earth's deadliest threat. But The Hood refuses to comply with the directive of the Tomorrow Men to kill the Comet. Instead, he tries another approach...making the Comet his friend. Written by Brian Augustyn and Mark Waid, with art by Joe Quesada, Chuck Wojtkiewicz, and Jimmy Palmiotti Cover by Quesada and Palmiotti. $1.25

DETECTIVE COMICS #658

Part 2 of the 2-part "The Cypher Configuration": Batman, Robin, and Azrael combine their skills to uncover a death threat against Lucius Fox. Written by Chuck Dixon, with art by Michael Netzer and Scott Hanna. Cover by Sam Kieth. $1.25

MODESTY BLAISE #2
(of a 3-book miniseries)

Modesty Blaise and Willie Garvin launch a two-person assault on Gabriel's island stronghold They have just 15 seconds to win their battle...or be captured and killed! Written by Peter O'Donnell, with art and cover by Dick Giordano. *(Prestige Format)* $4.95

SCARLETT #4

Part 5 of the 5-part "Blood of Innocence": By Paris rises from death to assume her destiny as the Scarlett Redeemer and finds herself in the midst of a swirling battle involv.ng two warring factions of vampires, their near-immortal foes, The Nomads, the mysterious vampire stalker, Montero, and the unraveling of the very fabric of reality Written by Tom Joyner and K.S. Wilson, with art and cover by Jim Fern. *(New Format)* $1.75

BLOOD SYNDICATE #1

DC #61

DIRECT CURRENTS

APRIL COVER DATE

WESLEY DODDS IS THE SANDMAN

In the span of years when Morpheus of the Dreaming was held captive by a human sorcerer, the universe knew someone was missing and tried to replace him. In the late 1930s, haunted by dark dreams, Wesley Dodds, a quiet, studious man, the heir to a fabulous fortune, took to wearing a gasmask and going out at night to battle bizarre criminals with names like the Tarantula, the Mist, and the Phantom of the World's Fair. Dodds put his foes to sleep with gas and sprinkled sand on them. Somewhere along the line, they took to calling him the Sandman.

The curtain goes up on SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE, the first new ongoing Vertigo title. Matt Wagner, creator of *Grendel* and *Mage* and writer/artist of the "Faces" story arc in BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT, will be the regular writer, with rotating artists on each story arc. The first storyline will be drawn by Guy Davis, creator of *Baker Street*. Together, Wagner and Davis team up to create baroque new tales of a mysterious night avenger. Combining the relentless plotting of a hard-boiled detective novel and the subtle psychological ambiguities of classic *film noir*, SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE is certain to be this year's hottest ticket.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Wesley Dodds is haunted by dreams
SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE

...et MERCY touch you
A PRESTIGE FORMAT GRAPHIC NOVEL

Cover of the Month
HELLBLAZER #64

LET MERCY TOUCH YOU

While Joshua Rose's body lies in a coma, victim of a massive stroke, his wandering consciousness encounters a benevolent, ethereal entity he names Mercy. Pursuing the mysterious being around the globe, Rose watches as she touches the lives of anguished individuals, darkened by the shadow of despair, ignored by all but the enigmatic Mercy.

In England, she defends a suburban family against a wrathful poltergeist. In a South American rain forest, she aids a young boy through a harrowing rite of passage. In Brooklyn, she inspires an elderly woman trapped by memories of the past and fears for the future. Driven to uncover Mercy's secrets, Joshua's quest for answers takes him to the brink of sanity. But what he learns will change him and his universe forever.

MERCY, Vertigo's first Prestige Format graphic novel, is an exploration of the essence of life and the soul, and, at its core, a mystery—a search for truth. Inspired by J.M. DeMatteis's lyrical prose, Paul Johnson, artist of Part 4 of BOOKS OF MAGIC, has created vibrant and uplifting paintings for a story that will challenge readers not only to think, but to feel.

Jeffrey Lang, Writer
Patricia Jeres, Editor
Tom McCraw, Colorist
Bob Wayne, Director—Retailer Services

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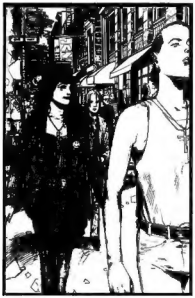
APRIL COVER DATE

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 9, 1993

DEATH: THE HIGH COST OF LIVING #2

(of a 3-issue miniseries)
Death (also known as Didi) and Sexton embark on the hunt for Mad Hettie's heart...and are promptly sidetracked by a bit of nightlife at the local club while the nightmarish plan of the Eremite begins to unfold. Written by Neil Gaiman, with art by Chris Bachalo and Mark Buckingham. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *(Suggested for mature readers. Deluxe Format.)* $1.95



DEATH: THE HIGH COST OF LIVING #2

SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE #1

In the premiere issue of a new ongoing Vertigo title, Wesley Dodds, the Golden Age Sandman, follows the trail of the Tarantula, a mysterious kidnapper who wants the last dance on every young woman's card. Written by Matt Wagner, with art by Guy Davis. Painted photo cover by Gavin Wilson. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.95

SANDMAN MYSTERY THEATRE #1

SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN #34

The Changing Man changes bodies once again—this time inhabiting the body of a psychotic. Shade must hold himself together long enough to solve the mystery of Kathy's unnerving disappearance. Written by Peter Milligan, with a 6-page framing sequence by Chris Bachalo and Rick Bryant and complete art on the remaining pages by Glyn Dillon. Painted cover by Chris Bachalo. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format)* $1.75

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 16, 1993

HELLBLAZER #64

Part 1 of the 3-part "Fear and Loathing": Constantine makes his move against the archangel Gabriel, whose ties to a racist organization may prove fatal to Constantine or to someone close to him. Written by Garth Ennis, with art by Steve Dillon. Painted cover by Glenn Fabry. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75

HELLBLAZER #64

APRIL COVER DATE

THE SANDMAN #48
Family gatherings create pressures that provoke unwanted revelations. Dream, Destruction, and Delirium debate and secrets are revealed. Written by Neil Gaiman, with art by Jill Thompson and Vince Locke. Painted cover by Dave McKean. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75

SHIPPING FEBRUARY 23, 1993

ANIMAL MAN #58
Stranded alone in New York without a penny or even a calling card, Ellen Baker struggles to survive in the concrete jungle. Written by Jamie Delano, with art by John Higgins. Painted cover by Brian Bolland. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75

ENIGMA #2
(of an 8-issue limited series)
Just as Michael Smith dies, the truth dawns on him—The Enigma is a character from his favorite childhood comic book. A different Truth, a new monstrous serial killer, is determined to leave The Enigma in the same condition as Michael. Written by Peter Milligan, with art by Duncan Fegredo and full process color by Sherilyn van Valkenburgh. Painted cover by Duncan Fegredo. *(Suggested for mature readers. Deluxe Format.)* $2.50

SWAMP THING #130
"Swamp Fever" heats up as the Swamp Thing's toxin-induced hallucinations grow more vividly deadly and his control over the Green continues to wane. Back in the bayou, Abby finds new love and Tefé's animated flower folk exhibit more disturbing behavior. Written by Nancy A. Collins, with art by Scot Eaton and Kim DeMulder and **a special pinup by Kelley Jones.** Painted cover by Charles Vess. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75

SWAMP THING #130

SHIPPING MARCH 2, 1993

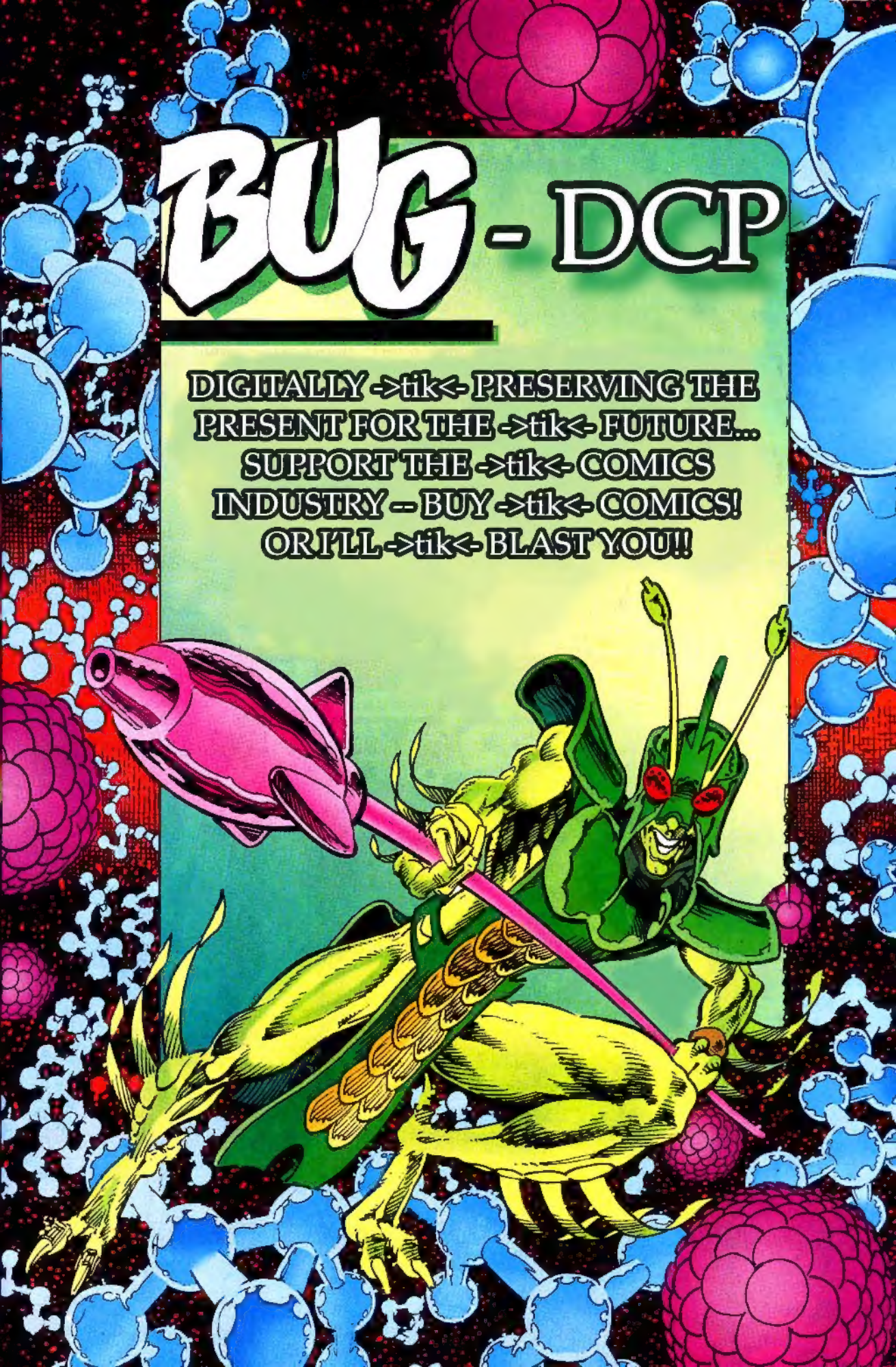
MERCY
His consciousness cut off from his body by a massive stroke, Joshua Rose has resigned himself to a grey oblivion when he becomes aware of a benevolent, ethereal being he names Mercy. Rose follows Mercy in her travels around the globe, as she assists and protects individuals threatened by menaces from this world...and the next. Written by J.M. DeMatteis, with fully painted art by Paul Johnson. Wraparound painted cover by Paul Johnson. *(Suggested for mature readers. 64-page one-shot. Prestige Format)* $5.95

MERCY

ENIGMA #2

SHIPPING MARCH 9, 1993

DOOM PATROL #65
Cliff Steele returns, but his computer brain seems to be a few bits short of a byte. With the Chief on Ice and Dorothy freaking out, who will help Cliff put all the pieces back together? Written by Rachel Pollack, with art by Richard Case and Stan Woch. Painted cover by Brian Bolland. *(Suggested for mature readers. New Format.)* $1.75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